AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide, ~~or sequence variant thereof,~~ wherein said polypeptide is a fragment of the polypeptide sequence represented in SEQ ID NO: 8~~, wherein the fragment is a polypeptide fragment consisting of amino acid residues from about residue~~ having at least 85% sequence identity with residues 128-224 of the amino acid sequence presented in SEQ ID NO: 8, ~~or a polypeptide fragment consisting of amino acid residues from about residue 128-224 of the amino acid sequence presented in SEQ ID NO: 8 wherein said sequence has been modified by addition, deletion or substitution of at least one amino acid residue,~~ wherein the polypeptide inhibits the ~~apoptoic~~ apoptotic activity of p53.

2. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid molecule according to Claim 1, wherein said molecule encodes a fragment consisting of amino acid residues ~~from about residue~~ 128-224 of the sequence represented in SEQ ID NO: 8.

3. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid molecule according to Claim 2, wherein said molecule is isolated from a human.

4. - 7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid molecule according to Claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is a cDNA or genomic DNA.

9. – 10. (canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) A vector comprising the nucleic acid according to Claim 1.

12. (Previously Presented) The vector according to Claim 11, wherein said vector is an expression vector.

13. (Currently Amended) A cell ~~tranformed~~ transformed or transfected with the nucleic acid molecule according to Claim 1.

14. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the nucleic acid according to Claim 1.

15. - 54. (Canceled)

55. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide has at least 90% sequence identity with amino acid residues 128-224 of the amino acid sequence presented in SEQ ID NO: 8.

56. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide has at least 95% sequence identity with amino acid residues 128-224 of the amino acid sequence presented in SEQ ID NO: 8.

57. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide has at least 97% sequence identity with amino acid residues 128-224 of the amino acid sequence presented in SEQ ID NO: 8.

58. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide has at least 99% sequence identity with amino acid residues 128-224 of the amino acid sequence presented in SEQ ID NO: 8.

59. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide has at least 95% sequence identity with residues 128-224 of the amino acid sequence presented in SEQ ID NO: 8.

60. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide consists of residues 128-224 of the amino acid sequence presented in SEQ ID NO: 8.